

THE NEW-ENGLAND DINNER

not further trespass upon your patience, but I will propose a question to the audience.

"New England Nationality—May it ever be cherished as the most binding element of the American nation. [Applause.]

Dr. F. Whipple, ex of Boston, responded to the eighth toast, "New England, its arms extended as fast as and as far as its sons migrate." Mr. Whipple began by paying a warm tribute to the army and navy, allowing in graceful terms to the presence of Gen. McDowell, who he said he had the honor to know personally, and for Gen. McDowell, which were heartily given. Mr. Whipple continued: But Admiral Frazar is not present, though his deputy is one who would do honor to any man in the army and the navy. And if he would submit, before responding to your toast, Mr. President, this sentiment:

Admiral Frazar: In the long line of illustrious seamen, from Thas-

And in responding, Mr. President, to the toast on which you called me up, I may perhaps be allowed to say as the result of my own experience that however far and fast I have traveled, I have never been able to get out of New England. Laughter and applause. The Yankee in England, projecting, scheming, reforming, and above all conquering. The Yankee indeed is a cosmopolite, his country is the world, his countrymen are the mankind that he can drive a bargain with; and he is now

the simple being that we commonly suppose, but a very complex and comprehensive one, and he always throws the whole force of his nature into whatever work he undertakes. Whether he be a transcendentalist, or a descendantist, a thinker, or a trader, after pennies, whether conducting a prayer meeting, or starting a railroad, or pushing forward a reform, or writing a theosophist; or getting up a college, or a church, or a corner in Erie [loud laughter]; tireless, restless, acute, innovating, penetrating into the wildest and remotest places, he always carries civilization

in his brain, and always exhibits the power to extemporize a Republican Government hereafter. He has been too busy to be disappointed. This insatiable need of activity is of course the source of the New-Englanders enterprise, and his discontent with the established. What his enterprise has effected in business, in politics, and in part in morals, is matter of American history; but when he appears as a reformer his innovating and enterprising turn of mind is apt to excite the greatest opposition. The truth is, that even the good when he sees it only awakes in him a kind of venom I desire to supplant and it by the letter. He cannot endure the stationary,

he must advance. This too is a sign of a pigmy mind, and then when one contrasts the leader that you described with the leader of the dinner, the dinner's descendents have eaten when celebrating the landing is not this an unmistakable sign of Pilgrim's Progress. [Laughter and applause.] The truth is that the Yankee has never got rid of his own habit of whittling. The moment he rises from the jack-knife to the pen and the political speech, he uses the same old weapon, and as statesmen, reformer, thinker, he aches to whittle human institutions into the shape suggested by his own ideas of human justice and good sense. It is sometimes complained that in doing this he displays

altogether too much tartness of speech and heat of epithet. Well, I must admit that he is very liable to get very mad when he witnesses certain attempts to compromise social and religious questions by the simple delicious process, he has so often been said, of taking the notes out of the sermons and putting them in the creed. Applause. But is not this, after all, really a sign of earnestness and fidelity. Mr. Whipple interspersed his remarks with a number of humorous stories, and concluded amid hearty applause.

The venerable Joseph Hoxie, by the request of the President, personated Admiral Farragut in returning thanks for the navy, and by a humorous description of

his experiences when passing the forts below New Orleans, when lashed to the masthead in Mobile Bay, and on his recent visit to the ports in the Old World with his squadron, created great licentious.

The Rev. Dr. Bellows responded to the toast, "American Commerce—from the little 'Mayflower' have sprung the winged fleet which now whitens every sea." He thought that commerce stood not only for the interchange of those most precious of all commodities, ideas, experiences, customs, and usages, and if a country sought to progress it must add itself to the rest of the human race and the rest of the human race to itself, and thus expand and enlarge its experience.

This would make every country as it were the representative of all that has been known, professed, used and enjoyed the wide world over. (Applause.) With that ideal of commerce he thought they must regard it not only as the intellectual and moral and moral missionary, but the intellectual, moral and moral missionary, but the intellectual, moral and moral missionary of the world; for, in his opinion, our ships did more to carry the knowledge of civilized and christianized communities to all parts of the world than even those official missionaries who passed in them.

The Rev. Dr. Hall responded to the toast "Our Sister Societies," and at a late hour the company separated, with three times three cheers for the ladies, a large num-

The following letters were received and read at the dinner.

Dear Sir: I am truly sorry to have missed the pleasure of helping you to commemorate the heroic men of two centuries ago, by so pleasant a sacrifice as your dinners always are. You tempt the carnal man with viands more savory than the traditional clams with which the Pilgrims of Plymouth made shift to keep themselves and the Future, of which they were the unconscious depositories, alive through that second dreadful Winter. But without being a relic (which I have no instant desire to become) one cannot be in two places at

once. As if has never been fully brought to light down and weep by the East and North American continent and the people of the east coast have much more than enough to do as they are called upon to meet it, it is only by force of imagination that I can conceive the nature and objects of your Society. But if your aim be, as I suppose, to cherish and keep alive the noble convictions, and not the narrow traditions, of the Founders of Democracy in the New World, of the men who made conscience the cornerstone of their polity, and the right of man to his own reason the first article in their creed, I could wish that your table might stretch from Maine to the Mexican Gulf. It has been the fashion of late, with some people,

even with some escaped negro fugitives, and in trying to repopulate their land, they were inclined to persecute the Puritans, but honest men always reverence those who believe in something better than material prosperity, and were willing to sacrifice all they were and all they had for their faith.

There are worse things even than bigotry, when it is on the right side. Such celebrations as yours are of great value, as they remind us that it is always the self-sacrifice of one generation that is the prosperity of the next, that the force of men lies in their ideas, and not their numbers.

If I might be allowed to add one to your list of "sentimentalists," I would name the Rev. Mr. Plover, of Plymouth.

meats," it would be this: "I am a man of a sure faith in the supreme obligation of Duty, and in Character as the chief element of durable success. I remain very truly yours, J. R. LOWELL."

ELLIOT C. COWDIN, esq.

SENATE CHAMBER, Dec. 21, 1868.

The Hon. ELLIOT C. COWDIN, New-York.

MY DEAR SIR: It will not be in my power to unite with you in your Pilgrim Festival; but I rejoice that you will commemorate the great anniversary. Few events in history will compare with the grandeur of that landing on Plymouth Rock. Then and there began a new succession of ages. Accept my thanks, and believe me, my sincere friend, YRS. TRULY, SUMNER.

ELLIOT C. COWDIN, *esq.*, New-York.
MY DEAR SIR: I feel very much honored by the invitation of the Board of Officers of the New-England Society to be present at the approaching anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims. It would give me much satisfaction to accept it if it were otherwise convenient to me to go to New-York at that time. But I regret to say that my engagements here are of a kind which will probably fix me to this place permanently for the Winter. I pray you to accept for yourself, as well as for the gentlemen you represent, my warmest thanks for their courtesy, and believe me to be, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours, &c. &c. &c.
ELLIOT C. COWDIN.

ARMY REUNION, ROOMS ARMY OF THE OHIO, }
Dec. 16, 1898. }

ELLIOT C. COWDEN, *exq. Chairman, &c.* }

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 8th inst., inviting me to be present at the celebration of the approaching anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims, on the 23d inst.

Nothing but the pressure of official duties would prevent the acceptance of the invitation to unite with you in doing honor to the memory of that noble band of heroes who left homes abounding in physical comfort, in the Old World, to plant in a new and unknown country

In conclusion, I beg to offer the sentiment: The Descendants of the Pilgrims—May they in the future, as in the past, prove themselves worthy of their ancestors.

Thanking you for your kind invitation, which I sincerely regret my inability to accept, I am, very respectfully, your obt. servt.,

J. M. SCHIFFIELD.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 1868.

DEAR SIR: It is a great pity that the Pilgrim Fathers were so inconsiderate as not to put off the Landing till between Christmas and New-Year. Perhaps they would

have done so and was but had thought what a great day in my day was and what to be! In that case it might be in my power to join the New England Society in their commemorative festivity.

without neglecting duties which must not be neglected.

Yours truly, S. P. CHASE.

Mon. Elliot C. Cowdin.
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 11, 1868.

Mon. ELLIOT C. COWDIN, *Chairman, &c., &c.*
SIR: Gen. Grant directs me to express his thanks for the invitation you have been good enough to convey, for him to be present at the anniversary dinner of the New

England Society of the City of New-York, and his regret that engagements previously made will prevent his accepting the courtesy. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ADAM HADEN, Major Brig.-Gen. and A. D. C.

BRITISH LEGATION, 6th May, 1868.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of the 6th inst. which I only received this morning, I beg to say that you will convey to the New-England Society my grateful acknowledgments for their kindness in honoring me with an invitation for so interesting an anniversary as that proposed to be celebrated on the 22d inst. I am sorry, however, that pressing business, which renders my presence here indispensable, makes it impossible for me to accept their kind invitation.

EDWARD THORNTON,
ELLIOT & COWDEN, *agents*.

THE PACIFIC OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—The steamer Great Republic arrived to-day with advices from Hong Kong Nov. 16th, and Yokohama the 18th. She brings 300 passengers, 1,217 tons of freight, 1,251 packages of silk, and 500 packages of tea for New-York. The Great Republic made the connection with the steamer Golden City, which